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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 18, 2005

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Request for Extension of Closing Deadline; IB Docket No. 03-115;
Transfer of Control of Satellite Earth Stations E000164 and KA-34;
File Nos. SES-T/C-20030418-00502, SES-T/C-20030418-00501**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pacific Telecom Inc. ("PTI") and Bell Atlantic New Zealand Holdings, Inc. ("BANZHI"), by their attorneys, respectfully request an additional 60 days—from April 29, 2005 through and including June 27, 2005—to complete the transfer of control of the above-referenced earth station licenses in the above-captioned docket. On November 6, 2003, the International Bureau, Wireline Competition Bureau, and Wireless Bureau authorized a transfer of control from BANZHI to PTI of certain licenses held by The Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation ("MTC") and its subsidiary GTE Pacifica Inc. ("GTE Pacifica").

Unfortunately, despite the ongoing diligent efforts of the parties, not all of the conditions to the closing of the transaction have yet been satisfied. The parties continue to await final approval from the local regulatory authority in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth Telecommunications Commission, for the transfer of control of the local telecommunications license. The parties cannot close the transaction before obtaining this additional regulatory approval.

Pursuant to Section 25.119 of the Commission's rules, the earliest deadline for consummating this transaction was 60 days after authorization—January 5, 2004.¹ On January 5, 2004, the Commission granted PTI/BANZHI's request for an

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 25.119. The 60-day deadline pertains to the two earth station licenses. A relevant deadline also applies for the wireless license. The initial deadline for consummation is 180 days after authorization, which was May 4, 2004. The parties requested a 180-day extension of that deadline on May 1, 2004, File No. 0001721117, and requested a further extension until April 29, 2005, by a filing submitted October 27, 2004, File No. 0001915450. Concurrently with this request, the parties are filing a third extension request for the wireless license.

No. of Pages rec'd
List ASCODE

014

April 18, 2005

Page 2

extension of the original deadline and set the new deadline at March 4, 2004.² On several subsequent occasions, PTI and BANZHI requested an additional 60 days in which to consummate the transaction.³ At this time, PTI and BANZHI respectfully request an additional 60 days, until June 27, 2005, in which to consummate the transaction.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jennifer D. Hindin

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cc: Tom Tycz, Chief, Satellite Division
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² Request for Extension of Closing Deadline; IB Docket No. 03-115; Transfer of Control of Satellite Earth Stations E000164 and KA-34; File Nos. SES-T/C-20030418-00502, SES-T/C-20030418-00501 (oral grant from Jeannette Spriggs, International Bureau, FCC to Jennifer Hindin, Counsel to BANZHI on January 5, 2004).

³ Requests for Extension of Closing Deadline; IB Docket No. 03-115; Transfer of Control of Satellite Earth Stations E000164 and KA-34; File Nos. SES-T/C-20030418-00502, SES-T/C-20030418-00501 (filed March 1, 2004, May 1, 2004, June 29, 2004, August 27, 2004, October 21, 2004, December 22, 2004, and February 18, 2005).